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Watch Committee

Watch Report

DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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COMBINED WATCH REPORT
of the
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

No. 1263

7 November 1974
(As of 1400 EST)

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The Committee concludes that there will be no military attack on the United States or its overseas forces in the near future. Subjects of immediate concern are discussed below.

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I. Middle East

Tension in the Middle East has been significantly heightened. Tel Aviv remains adamantly opposed to negotiations with the PLO, while the Arabs are insistent on their participation. Efforts to obtain a diplomatic settlement have been complicated by the Rabat decision and the longer the current impasse continues, the greater the risk of renewed fighting, especially on the Golan Heights. Each side is apprehensive that the other may resort to military action, and each side continues to prepare for another war. Either side could launch a large-scale offensive with little or no warning.

The fighting between the Iraqi Army and the Kurdish rebels continues at a heightened pace. Winter weather has not yet settled into the area. In any case, Baghdad reportedly intends to press the war in an all out effort to achieve a military solution to the Kurdish rebellion. Further deterioration in the rebel position and a greater commitment of Iranian support to the Kurds on Iraqi territory increase the possibility of a direct clash between Iraqi and Iranian forces in the border area.

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II. USSR-Eastern Europe

We see no indications of hostile intent in the military activity of the USSR or other Warsaw Pact nations.

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III. Southeast Asia

In South Vietnam, we expect the generally low level of military action to continue for the immediate future, with the more significant fighting in Military Region 1.

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